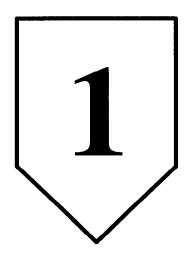
1st Infantry Division Staff Ride

TUNISIA



TUNISIA 1942-1943

10-12 November 1997

Tunisia Staff Ride

It all began as OPERATION JOINT GUARD in Bosnia wound down for the Division. Split operations – half of the Division in Bosnia, half scattered throughout Europe maintaining the delicate stability of the post-Cold War World – tore at the historical hallmark of this great Division – our cohesion as a fighting force.

But the Victory Lady was smiling once again. MG Grange was invited to attend the Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation dedication of a carillon in Tunisia. We would all soon learn how fast the division could respond to a mission from DANGER 6. For our G3, LTC Carter Ham, the story is told that he had the commander's concept of operation and intent before he had the mission!

Without hesitation, the G3 and G4 iron majors swung into action - ordering desert BDU's complete with name tapes, branch insignia, rank, and Big Red One shoulder patches which were red; looking for any airplane which would fly an unscheduled route into the past; searching for an expert to lead a worthwhile battlefield analysis and tour; undoing brigade and battalion commanders' carefully crafted personal schedules; and finding the money to do all of this on short notice. MAJ Drew Stathis and his team were magnificent.

Our Staff Ride journey began on 7 November in the Cantigny Club near the Division Headquarters in Wuerzburg. Our staff ride guide, Roger Cirillo, presented an analysis of Il Corps' offensive operations to seize the critical ports of Tunis and Bizerte. Roger's keen sense of humor and in-depth knowledge of the battle were not only enlightening, but cause enough to ask him to return for another staff ride. We would later find that he was equally adept once we got to the battlefield.

Roger highlighted the strategic setting, weapons, tactics, and even some of the doctrine, such as the 22 May 1941 version of FM 100-5. Excerpts from that document can be found throughout this pamphlet. He pointed out the mix of armor and infantry which were used across the 2000 mile wide theater from Tunis to Cairo. Machine gun battalions also complemented the maneuver arm of the day. Artillery tactics were described as "shoot first, adjust later" as artillery was used primarily for suppression, not destruction.

On 10 November, freshly armed with knowledge of the North African campaign, we rallied at Rhein Main Air Base in Frankfurt to begin our journey back to 1943 and the Big Red One's actions in North Africa under II Corps.

By the time the staff ride was over, we had regained our sense of camaraderie as the Army's premier infantry division - The First Infantry Division, The Big Red One.

No Mission Too Difficult, No Sacrifice Too Great,

Duty First!

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Instruction (MOI) for the Division Staff Ride to Tunisia.

- 1. Purpose. To provide participants information on the First Infantry Division's Staff Ride to Tunisia from 10-12 November 1997.
- 2. Background. This memorandum instructs the participants, identified in enclosure 1, on the conduct of the staff ride. The First Infantry Division (-) conducts a staff ride in Tunisia from 10-12 November 1997 with a seminar on 7 November 1997. The Commanding General's six training objectives listed in paragraph 3(a.1), are the focal points for the staff ride.

3. Execution.

- a. Concept of the Operation. The facilitator, LTC (Ret) Cirillo conducts the staff ride through on-site vantagepoint briefings and discussion. On 7 Nov 97, LTC (Ret) Cirillo conducts a four-hour seminar, in Wuerzburg. The seminar sets the stage for the actual staff ride by introducing the participants to the area of operation and personalities involved during the campaign.
- 1. Training Objectives. The CG has identified the following six objectives for the successful completion of the staff ride:
- a. Use the II Corps Offensive to seize Bizerte as a case study of the application of the principles of war and as a study in combined arms operations.
- b. To demonstrate, through historical example, the complexities and benefits of integrating heavy, light, and special operation forces.
- c. To show the effects of terrain and weather on plans and tactical operations.
- d. To familiarize the Division's leaders on desert operations in preparation for BCTP. Again, use historical examples as the catalyst for discussion on how the Division might fight today in similar conditions.
- e. To foster unit cohesion, esprit de corps, and to reinforce interest in the heritage of our Division.
- f. To participate, incidentally, in the AMVETS and M^cCormick Foundation dedication of a new carillon at the American Battle Monument's cemetery in Tunis.

- 2. Timetable. The timetable and agenda are listed in enclosure 2.
- 3. Attendance. Participants for the Tunisia Staff Ride are listed in enclosure 1.
- 4. Training location. TBP upon receipt from the facilitator.
- 5. Miscellaneous. Lodging and meals have been contracted through the hotel Abou Nawas, Tunis. Breakfast and Dinner will be in the hotel, lunch will be provided on the bus. Unit Emergency Operations Center's can call the hotel direct at 216-1-350-355. Each participant must have a passport (official or tourist) to process through Tunisian Customs. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- 4. Point of contact is Major Drew Stathis, G3 plans, 350-7101/6530, email address g3psyop@email.hq.lid.army.mil

2 Encls Attendees Timetable CARTER F. HAN

LTC, GS AcofS, G3

Enclosure 1 (Attendees)

CK# Ra	nk Last Name	First Name	Position
1 MG	Grange	David	CG
2 BG	Clemmons	Reginal	ADC-M
3 BG	Curran	John	ADC-S
4 CO	L Smith	Stephen	CofS
5 CSI	Montgomery	Harold	CSM
6 CO	L Thompson	Michael	CDR 2BDE
7 CO	L Winfield	Montague	CDR 3BDE
8 CO	L Casey	Timothy	CDR 4BDE
9 CO	L Schroedel	Joseph	CDR ENGBDE
10 CO	L Hunzeker	Kenneth	CDR DIVARTY
11 LTC	Shufelt	James	CDR 1/4 CAV
12 LTC	Crutchfield	Brenda	CDR 121 SIG
13 LTC	Harper	James	CDR 101 MI
14 LTC	Mathews	Roger	CDR 4/3 ADA
15 LTC	Norman	William	CDR 1-18IN
16 LTC	Dragon	Randal	CDR 1-26IN
17 LTC	C Greer	James	CDR 1-77AR
18 LTC	Burch	Glenn	CDR 2-2IN
19 LTC	Perkins	David	CDR 1-63AR
20 LTC	Kelley	John	CDR 1-1AVN
21 LTC	C Graham	William	CDR 2-1AVN
22 LTC	C Young	Morris	CDR 1-6FA
23 LTC	C Teague	George	CDR 1-7FA
24 LT0	Schneider	Thomas	CDR 201FSB
25 LTC	Dowd	Kenneth	CDR 299FSB
26 LTC	C Budney	James	CDR 601ASB
27 LTC	Rentz	James	CDR 701MSB
28 LTC	C Jenkins	Richard	CDR 9E
29 LTC	and the state of t	Jack	CDR 82E
30 LTC	and the second of the second o	Samuel	G1
31 LTC	particular description and the second control of	John	G2
32 LTC		Carter	G3
33 LTC		Hugh	G4
34 LTC	with the first section will be an about the con-	Arthur	G5
35 LT0	and the state of t	Bill	ALO
36 MA	Control Programme and Services	Drew	POC
37 CP		Nicolas	APOC
38 SS	the state of the contract of the second second second second	Mark	Translator
39 SS	والمراجع فحاله فالمستحدث والمسور ويتبرؤن الأراب الرازي	John	Translator
40 SS	and the control of th	Robert	Translator
41 SS	and the second control of the second control	Carson	Translator
42 SP	and the second s	Chad	Translator
43 Civ	مانا بالدائد ماستعبدت وتمويدوكات بالا	Roger	Facilitator
44 Civ	Torony	Gabby	Museum

Enclosure 2 (Timetable)

20 Oct 97	Issue Information Packets		
TBD	Issue Uniforms		
TBD	Issue Books		
7 Nov 97	Seminar at Cantigny Club Leighton Barracks 12-1300 Lunch, 1300-1700 Seminar Note 1		
10 Nov 97 NLT 0700	Arrive Rhine Main AB, Frankfurt. Note 2		
10 Nov 97 0900	Depart Rhine Main AB enroute Tunis		
10 Nov 97 1030	Arrive Tunis		
10 Nov 97 1100-1900	Staff Ride Location TBD		
10 Nov 97	Dinner with McCormick Foundation Time TBP, Attire Coat and Tie		
11 Nov 97 0800-1100	Staff Ride		
11 Nov 97 1530-1630	Ceremony Agenda TBP		
12 Nov 97 0800-1500	Staff Ride Vicinity of Hill 609		
12 Nov 97 1800	Depart Tunis Airport		
12 Nov 97 2130	Arrive Rhine Main AB		

Note 1. The Seminar is scheduled for 1300-1700 on 7 Nov 97. The CG will host a luncheon prior to the start of the seminar. Lunch will be served starting at 1200. The pay as you go buffet will be open until 1300. Uniform for the seminar is BDU.

Note 2. Arrival at Rhine Main Air Base is 0700. Colonels and above are invited to stay in the DV area prior to departure. Uniform for the flight is DCU.

1ID TUNISIA STAFF RIDE TUNIS, TUNISIA, 10-13 NOVEMBER CLIMATOLOGY OVERVIEW

GENERAL CONDITIONS: The summer weather patterns which resulted in hot and arid conditions have transitioned allowing cooler temperatures and more frequent rains to occur.

CLOUDS/VISIBILITY: Skies are mostly cloudy to cloudy just over 50 percent of the time. Dense fog is rare.

TEMPERATURES: Mild. The average daily high temperature in Tunis is 67 deg F and the average low is 53 deg F. Recorded extremes for the month of November are 86 deg F and 36 deg F.

PRECIPITATION: November is the second month of Tunisia's wet season. It rains on average 13 days during the month; the normal precipitation type is rain/drizzle with rare cases of flurries (no accumulation). Thunderstorms occur on average four days during the month.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY: The average relative humidity in Tunis during the month of November is 77 percent with a maximum occurring in the morning and a minimum in the late afternoon.

WINDS: Winds are normally from the West at 12 mph. The highest wind speed recorded during the month of November is 36 mph.

CUSTOMS AND SOME HELPFUL HINTS ON LIVING IN TUNISIA

Tunisia is a Muslim country and Islam permeates all aspects of life. Tunisia is an odd mixture of oriental and occidental ways of life. You will meet westernized Tunisians and traditional and conservative ones. Each country has its own customs and knowing Tunisian customs will help you adjust to life here.

Adapting and living in a Muslim and developing country and foreign culture are difficult at the beginning and require a calm approach, flexibility, and a sense of humor. Many things and types of behavior look strange and peculiar to you but should not be a barrier--just remember that it is just a different way of life, and, "inshallah," everything will go right.

Following are some helpful hints to make your tour more pleasant:

GREETING TUNISIANS

Men press their hands to their hearts. This is a sign of respect and affection.

Everyone always shakes hands--not just the first time you meet.

Women kiss each other on both cheeks and the men also greet each other in this way, although Tunisian men do not expect to be kissed by non-Arabs.

If you know the person well and they are westernized, you can kiss a member of the opposite sex.

DRESS

Dress can be casual, but it is better not to look like a tourist. If you are properly attired and look like you know where you are going, you will not be bothered as much.

Tunisian women can be fashionably dressed in Western style, or may wear the <u>safsari</u> (a length of white fabric draped over the head and entire body) or Islamic garb.

BEHAVIOR IN PUBLIC PLACES

If you speak a few words of Arabic or say "moush touriste" (I am not a tourist), you might be quoted better prices in the souk.

At the souk, it is best not to carry large purses or shoulder bags.

In deserted areas or at night, you should tuck your necklaces inside your clothing.

At night, it is not a good idea to walk alone--especially in Belvedere Park or deserted areas. In summer, between 1330 and 1600, do not jog and do not go to lonely places. Early

mornings can also present a problem.

In general, it is acceptable to eat in public, but some Tunisians may consider it impolite. Women who chew gum or smoke in public are considered vulgar.

Women should not sit in cases where you see only men. There are a few cases where women can go alone to drink coffee: one is on the fifth floor of the Hotel Africa; there are others at El Mechtel, Le Diplomat, L'Orient Palace hotels, and in the beach area.

Women should not go to movies alone; there are a few theaters where women can go together: Africa, Le Colisee, Cine Jamil, or the Carthage amphitheater.

USE OF "INSHALLAH"

This word is used all the time. It means "God willing." People plan for the future but believe that nothing can be fulfilled without the will of God. They may say "inshallah" to a request or to an invitation when they really mean "no" but do not want to offend you by refusing outright. Only Tunisians accurately understand the real meaning of how and when it is said.

VISITING MOSQUES

You should be appropriately attired and you must take your shoes off. Women should wear a scarf. Foreigners should avoid visiting during the times of prayer and Friday afternoon.

INVITING TUNISIANS TO YOUR HOME

Provide a good map--homes are hard to find in Tunis--and if visiting, get GOOD directions.

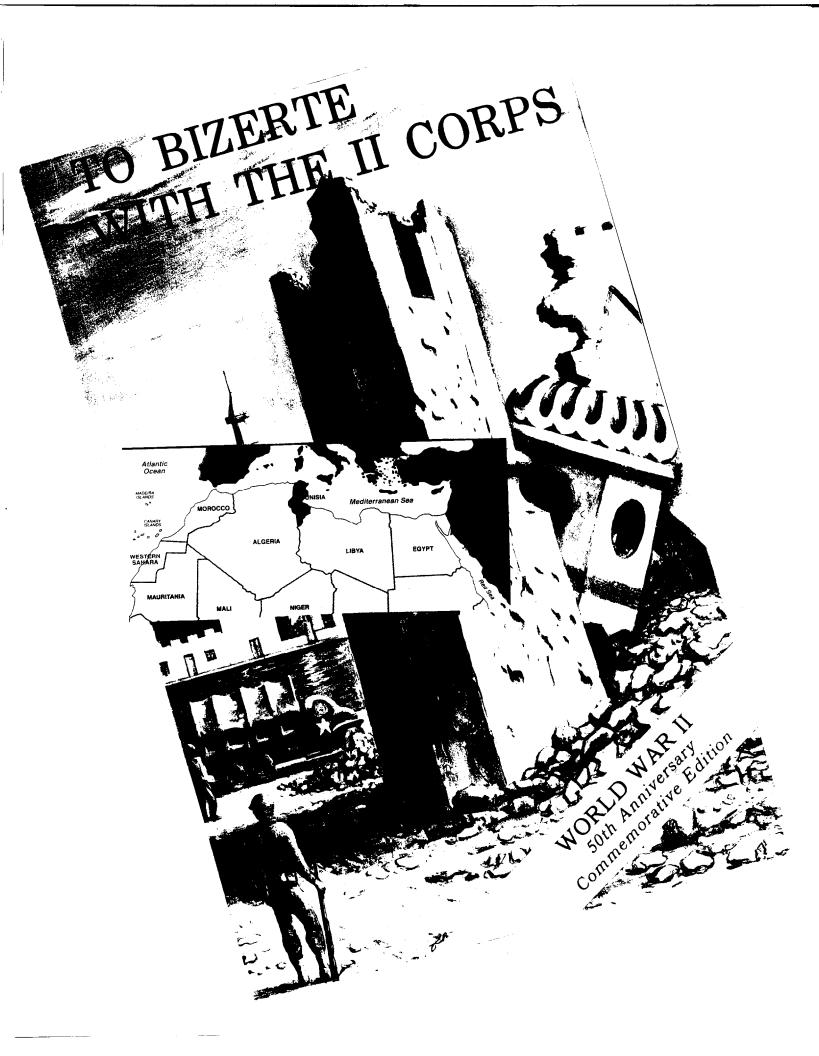
If you invite Tunisians to tea, it is a good idea to have something sweet, i.e., cake, and also something salty, i.e., little pizzas. Tea, coffee, and soft drinks can be served. Tunisians like green or red tea topped with pine nuts. Alcoholic drinks should not be offered unless one is well acquainted.

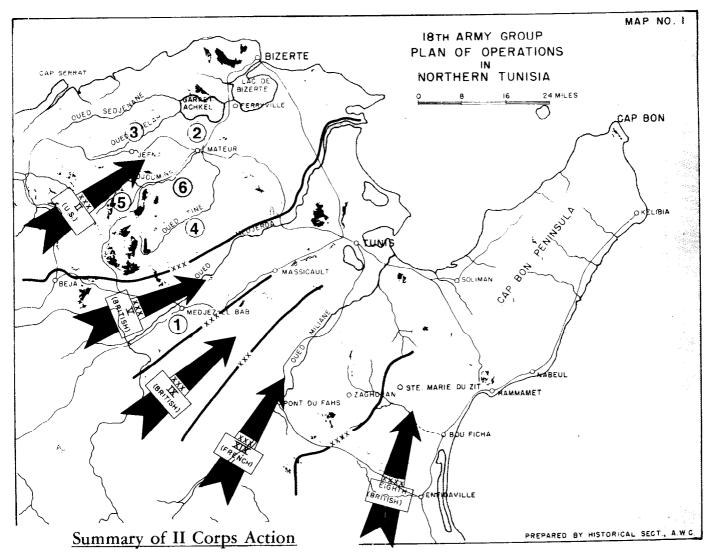
When Tunisians come to dinner, some will not bring a gift, but others may take sweets or flowers or chocolates. Some will come half an hour late, some will be on time, and a few may not show up. It is a good idea to make many dishes (salad, soup, a main dish, meat, vegetable, and dessert); otherwise, they will think you are being too economical. And do remember bread.

Tunisians like to eat after sunset. Some Tunisians like to eat chicken, mussels, or fish with their fingers, so make them feel at home by doing the same. Many Tunisians like soft drinks served with dinner.

Remember, evenings tend to be long--11:30 or 12:00--so be prepared.

Do escort your Tunisian guests to the gate. It is not the custom to send a thank you note.





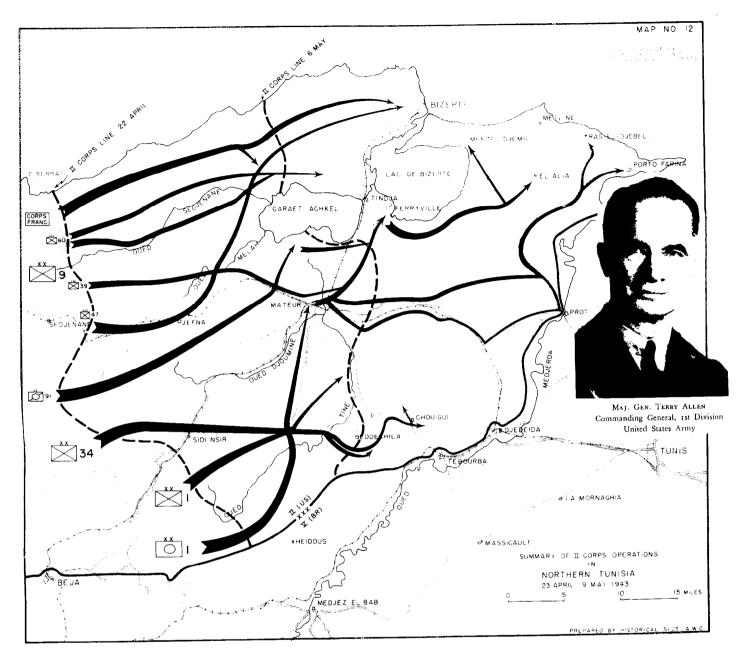
The operation of the II Corps, U. S. A., lasted 17 days and involved advances of 25 to 50 miles by four divisions. As ordered by General Alexander, our main effort was made on the right flank. Three divisions began the attack on a 13-mile front where advance by the II Corps would best support the big British thrust in the Medjerda Valley. On the northern part of our front, one division and the Corps Franc d'Afrique struck at enemy defenses west of Mateur.

The easiest way to follow the II Corps battle is to see it in terms of the two main phases in which the action developed in point of time. In the first phase, 23 April to 3 May, the II Corps stormed or outflanked all the major German hill fortresses, and forced an enemy retreat to a line east of Mateur and the Tine Valley on the last hills protecting the roads to Bizerte and Tunis. In the second phase, 4 to 9 May, the II Corps struck the new enemy line in key areas, broke through to capture Bizerte and Chouigui, and forced the surrender of all Axis troops left in its zone.

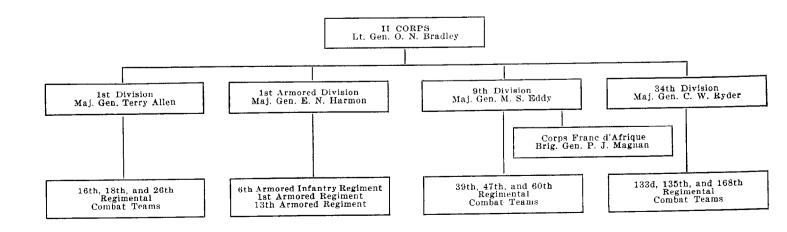
The II Corps was not fighting isolated battles; its action was always geared to a coordinated Allied operation. Although the larger story cannot be told here, the battle of Tunisia was won by the Eighteenth Army Group. The II Corps played its part, and played it well, in a great Allied victory.

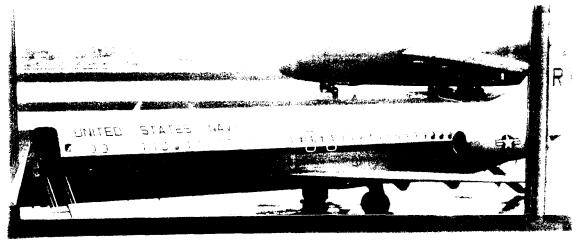
STAFF RIDE STOPS

- 1 Medjez-El Bab
- 2 Mateur
- 3 Quarry
- 4 Mousetrap
- 5 Sidi Nsir
- 6 Hill 529

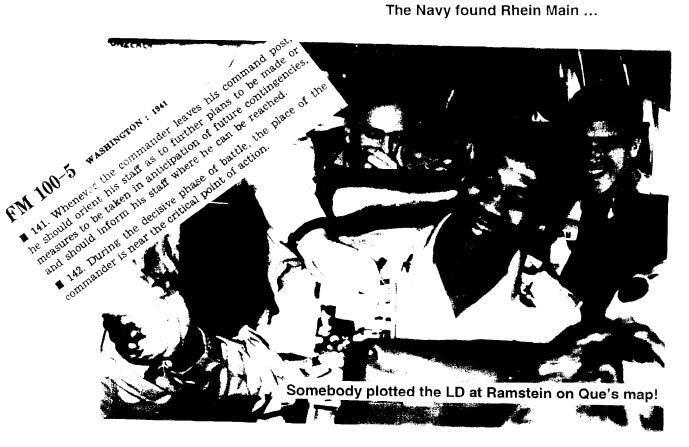


Organization of the United States II Corps (23 April-9 May 1943)

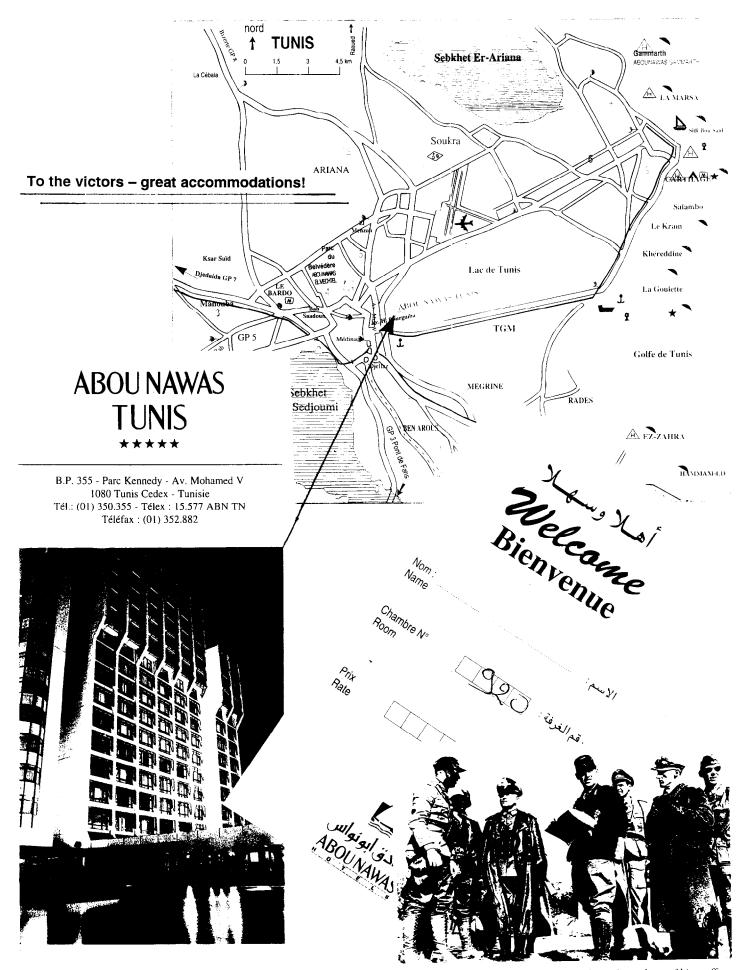




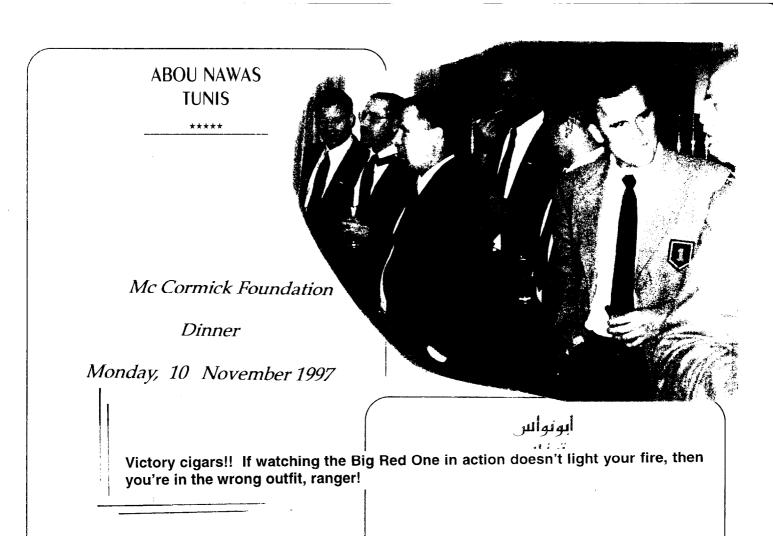
The Navy found Rhein Main ...







Field Marshal Rommel (third from left) and members of his staff.





MENU

Tajine's Assortment Grouper to the Sfaxian style

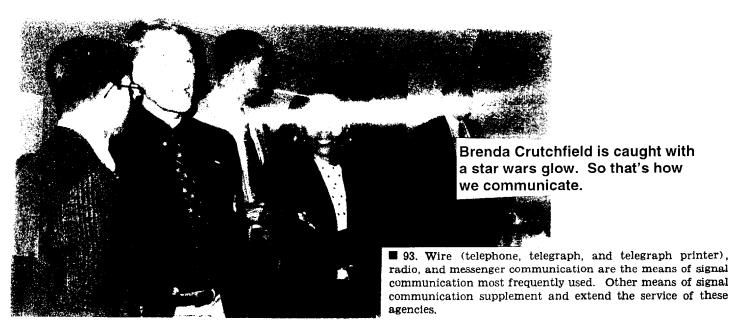
cake

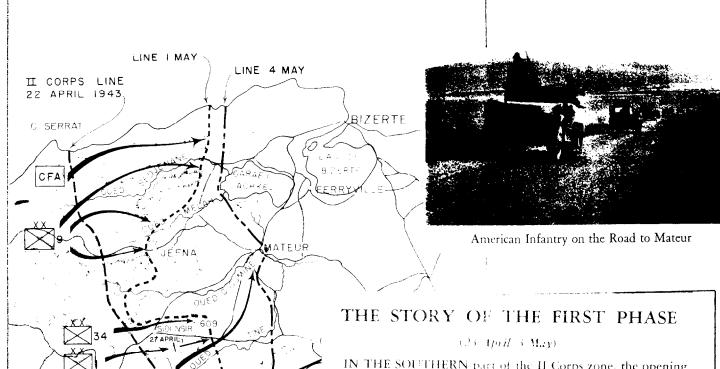




Roger contemplates seconds while Jack Scherer stays tuned in to a serious conversation.



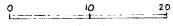




OPERATIONS OF THE FIRST PHASE 23 APRIL - 3 MAY 1943

▼BR

MEDJEZ EL

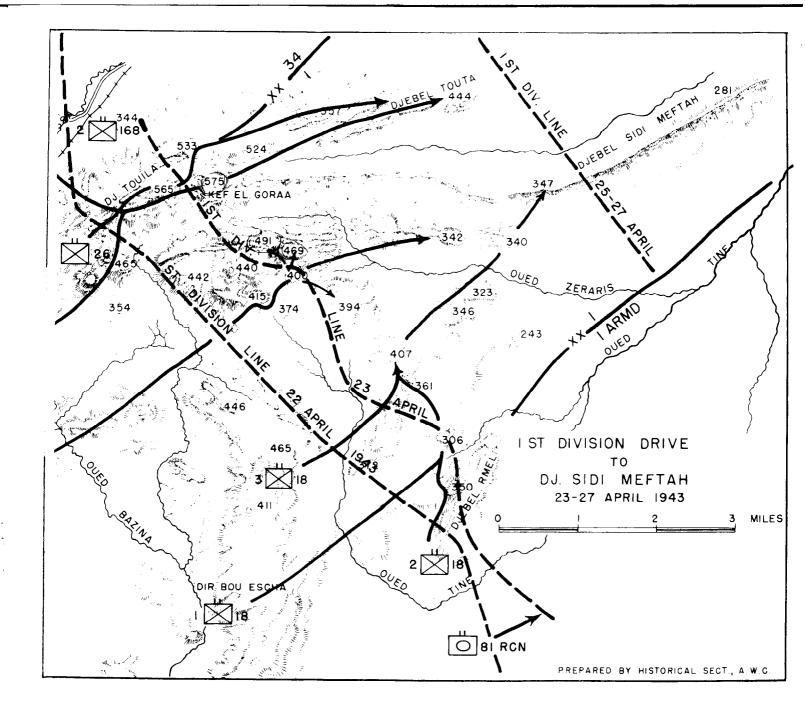




IN THE SOUTHERN part of the II Corps zone, the opening drives were made into the high ground bordering the Oued Tine Valley. By 26 April the 1st Division had gained 5 hard miles north of the valley, wresting the hills from German hands in bloody fighting marked by successful night attacks and effective use of artillery. The 3 th Division and the 1st now teamed up for a further advance. Swinging into action west of Sidi Nsir, the 3-th climaxed its drive by taking Hill 609, while the 1st pushed eastward another 5 miles. Meanwhile, the 6th Armored Infantry made steady progress along the edge of the range south of the Oued Tine. By 1 May, these coordinated efforts had taken all the key hill fortresses in the southern zone, and the Tine Valley was opened for an armored blow.

The 9th Division had been equally successful to the north. Its combat teams fought through the hills north of Jefna to outflank that strong position—By I May, the spearheads of the 9th were in sight of the plain near Garaet Achkel, and the Germans were pulling out of Jefna.

Forced in two areas to the edge of the hill belt protecting Mateur, the Germans risked disaster and knew it. With the 1st Armored Division on their heels, they withdrew beyond Mateur and into the hills just west of Chouigui. In 10 days, the II Corps had driven the enemy back 15 to 18 miles and unhinged his whole northern flank. Mateur was our main prize in this first phase of the battle. With that key center of communications in our possession, the stage was set for the final phase of the battle for northern Tunisia.

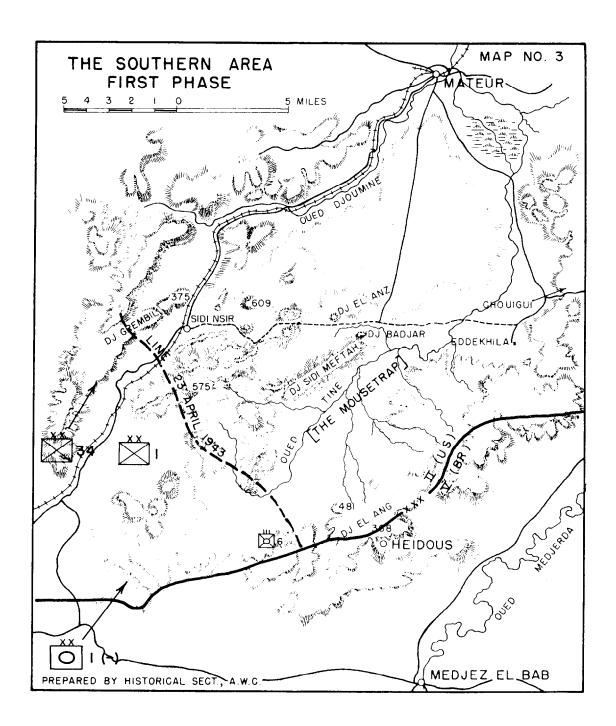




OUR FIRST MINEFIELD

Combat engineers participate actively in the penetration of hostile obstacles and the capture of fortified localities, and in the defense of road blocks or mine fields. Engineers may be assigned the task of constructing rearward defensive positions.

Adequate and timely engineer support in the movement and operations of mechanized and motorized units is of special importance.





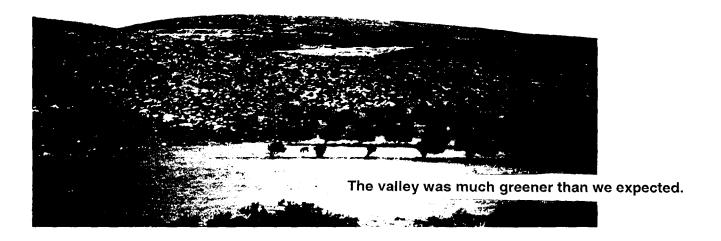
Carter Ham cracks another of his famous smiles – must be thinking about WARFIGHTER.

BG Curran, the ADCS, checks his new GPS – or is it his cell phone?

Or is he checking the price of scotch?

Roger looks for a place to set his maps down. CSM Montgomery helps with population control.







George Teague, 1-7 FA commander, shmoozes with one of the foundation members.



MG Neal Creighton is the President and CEO of the Robert R. McCormick and Tribune Foundation.



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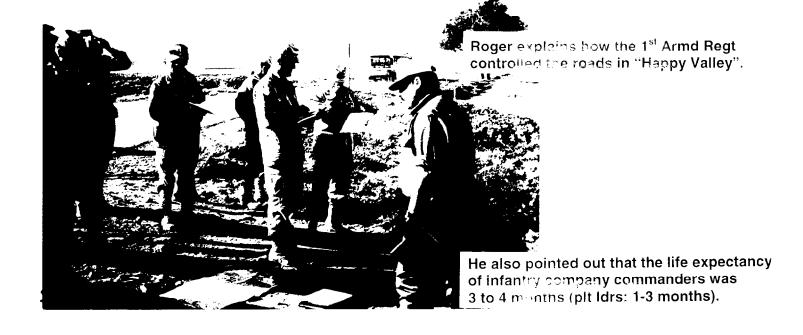




Rick Jenkins, 9th Engr Engrander, checks out the binos.

Bill Graham, 2-1 Avn Bn commander, and John Kelley, 1-1 Avn Bn commander, look too serious.



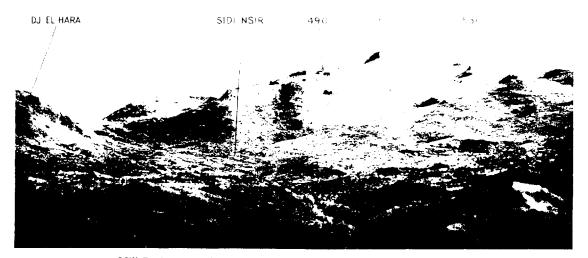




Cameras were at the ready



A view to the north at the line of hills which would late prove to be the keys to victory.



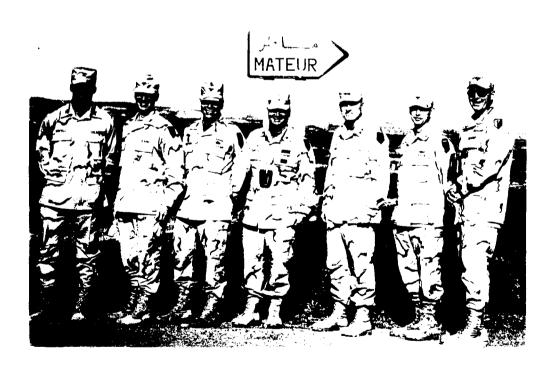
Hill Positions in the Line of the Advance to Hill 600 from the West



Mateur, captured on 3 May 1943 after II Corps, in ten days overcame strongly-fortified German hill defenses.



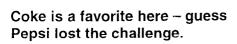
The CG and MG Creighton team up to strike a pose.



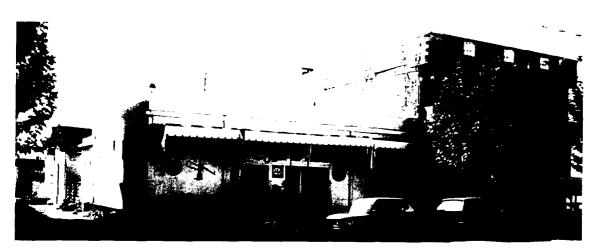
The "Huddle Group": Que Winfield, Joe Schroedel, Mike Thompson, BG Mark Curran, MG David Grange, Tim Casey, Ken Hunzeker (not shown: Steve Smith, Kris Drach and BG Reginald Clemmons). Kris was establishing the DSA in Mateur. Steve Smith was running split operations in Wuerzburg.



Roger uses a wail in Mateur during a rest break to make a few points: the U.S. didn't have enough supplies forward, roads were tough and one way, rail lines saved the day, and the last air attacks of the campaign were launched here.









The 2 BCT teams up for a coke break. Rick Jenkins, Jim Greer, Brian Norman, Mike Thompson, Ken Dowd, George Teague





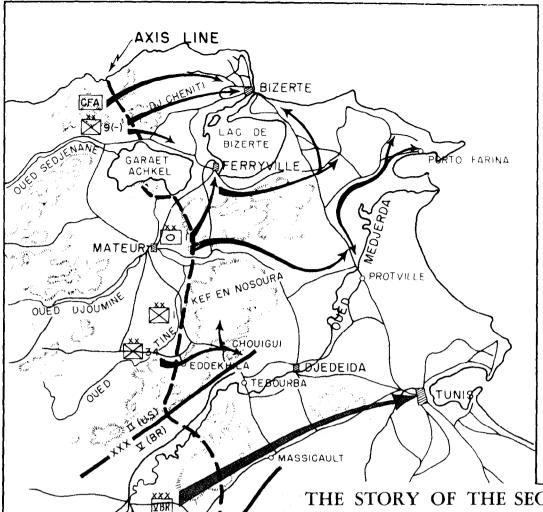
The CG coins a local national. The Big Red One continue to capture the hearts and minds of generations around the world.



On to the Quarry – which way do we go?



Supply Line in the Sedjenane Zonc



THE STORY OF THE SECOND PHASE

(4 May-13 May)

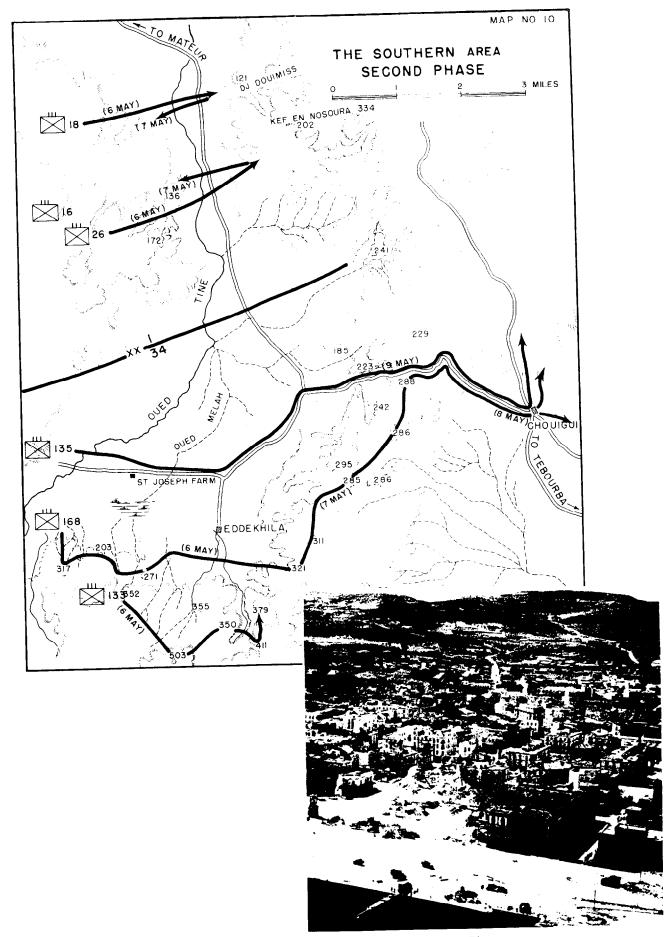
THE LAST PHASE of the II Corps battle opened on 4 May. Without giving the Germans time to rest or to organize their new positions, the II Corps dealt savage blows at three points in the enemy line. One blow fell north of Garaet Achkel, where the 9th Division and the Corps Franc cleared the hills around Djebel Cheniti in 2 days and then struck through at Bizerte. By 7 May one armored spearhead had reached Ferryville and was fanning out to the east; another armored force lunging east from Mateur was halfway to the Medjerda Valley. While the 1st Division held the enemy on Kef en Nosoura, the 34th broke through the hills near Eddekhila and reached Chouigui on 7 May.

Bizerte was in our hands by 8 May, and the German lines in the north were broken beyond hope of recovery. Meanwhile, the British First Army had delivered the knockout blow of the Tunisian campaign. A crushing tank attack which had reduced the German center at Massicault reached Tunis by evening of 7 May. Axis resistance faded rapidly. Nearly all the enemy forces north of Tunis surrendered on 9 May. The bag of the II Corps in the entire operation was some 42,000. In 4 more days the last Axis troops were rounded up, and the campaign for North Africa was over.

OPERATIONS OF THE SECOND PHASE 4-9 MAY 1943 20 10

PREPARED BY HISTORICAL SECT., A.W.C

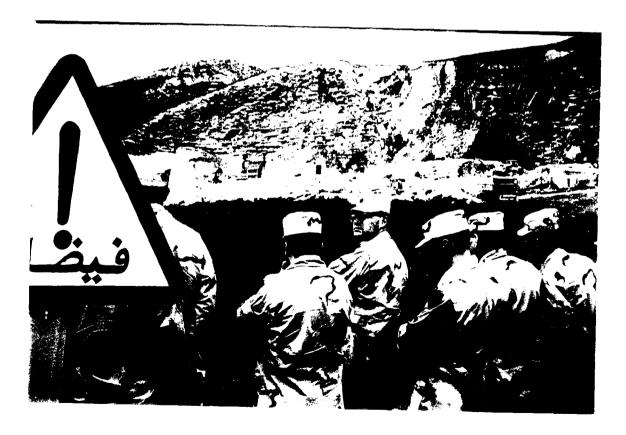
MILES

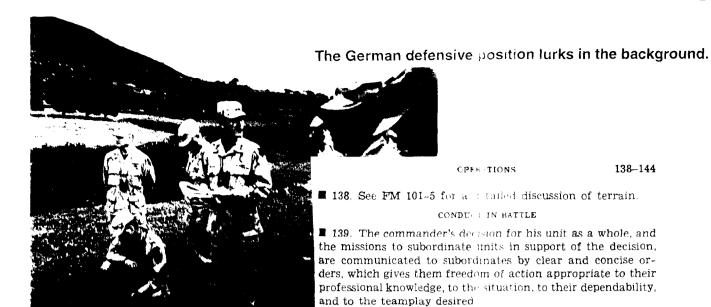


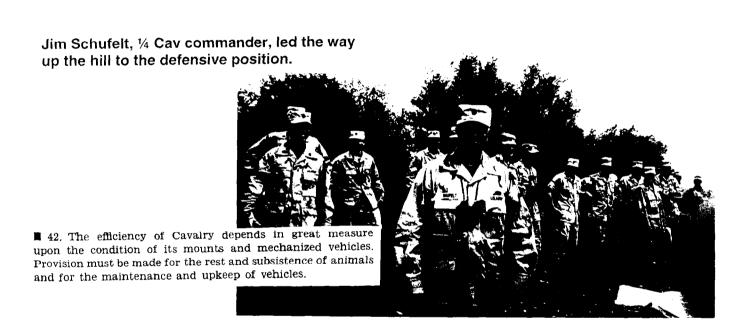
Bizerte

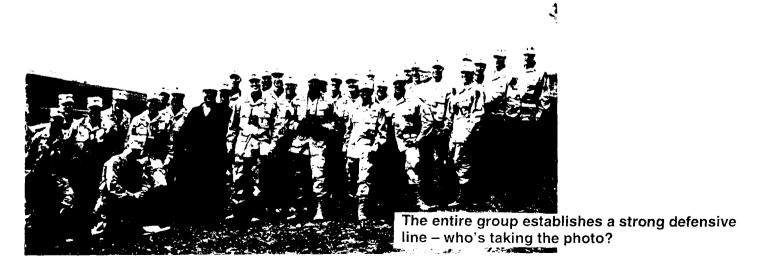


Roger describes the perfect ambush. Hugh Robinson, G4, hooks the camera in the eye – no log issues here, thank goodness.











I wouldn't come up that valley – but the British advance guard ${\rm did}$ – and lost 80 soldiers in the ambush.



The quarry site below and the route of advance of the British unit.



Jim Greer strikes a familiar pose.



British Firs. 4 (2004) - Amounder General Anderson and General British (1904) - 3.

■ 140 After proceeding for the issuance of orders, the commander places himself where he can best control the course of action and exert his leadership. His command post affords the advantage of established signal communication. When opportunity offers and when his presence at the command post is not urgently required, he visits his subordinate commanders and his troops in order to inspire confidence and to assure himself that his orders are understood and properly executed.

CHAPTER 15

THE DIVISION

SECTION I

INFANTRY DIVISION

■ 1043. The infantry division is the basis of organization of the field forces. It is the basic large unit of which corps (except armored and cavalry) and armies are formed. It is the smallest unit that is composed of all the essential ground arms and services and which can conduct, by its own means, operations of general importance. It can strike or penetrate effectively, maneuver readily, and absorb reinforcing units easily. It can act alone or as part of a higher unit.

The combat value of the infantry division derives from its ability to combine the action of the various arms and services to maintain combat over a considerable period of time. In active operations the division should be reinforced with air observation means.

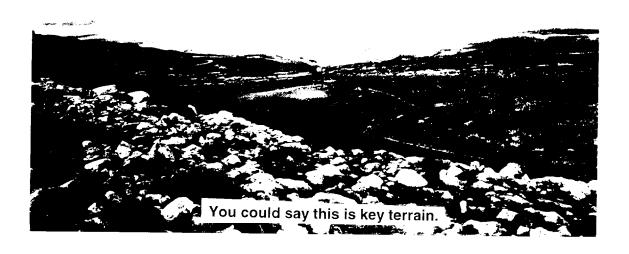
When operating alone, additional aviation, engineer, antitank and supply means will normally be required by the division.



Hill 609



On top of Hill 529 – Roger describes the German defenses. Four battalions of Germans took on two divisions.

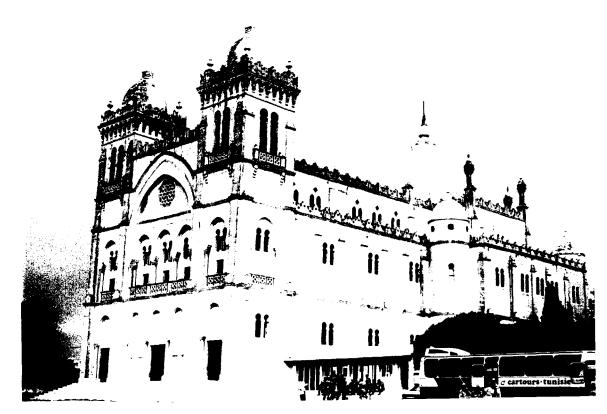




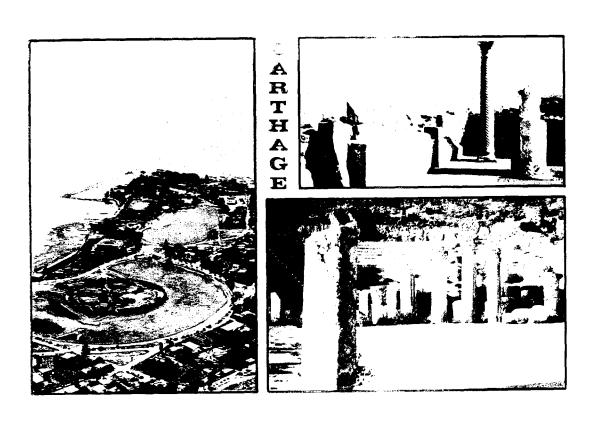
Hill 609

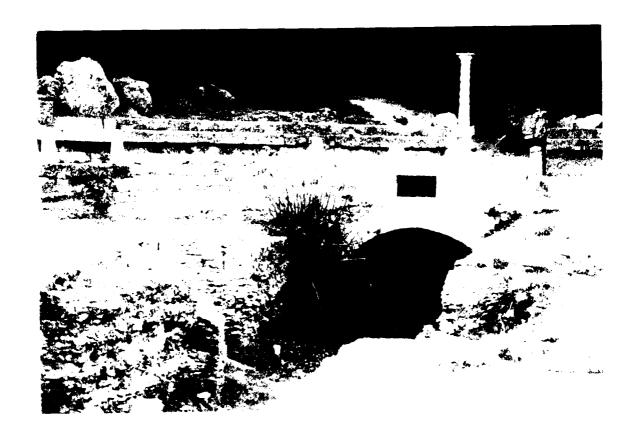


Randy Dragon, 1-26 Inf Bn commander, ponders the dominance of the position.



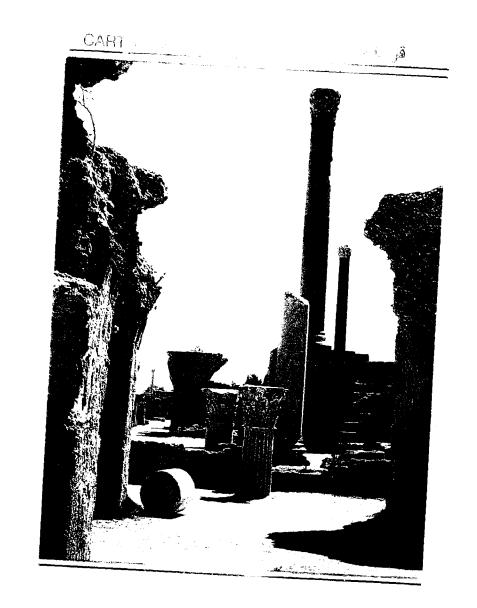
Carthage was only 30 minutes away – so we made the trip to the ruins as well as the museum.

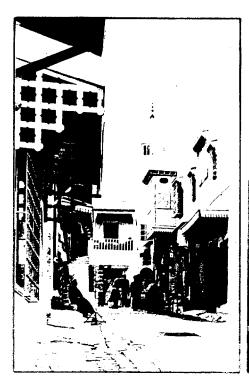


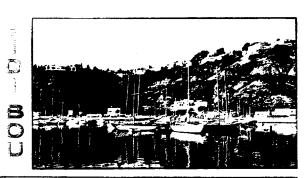














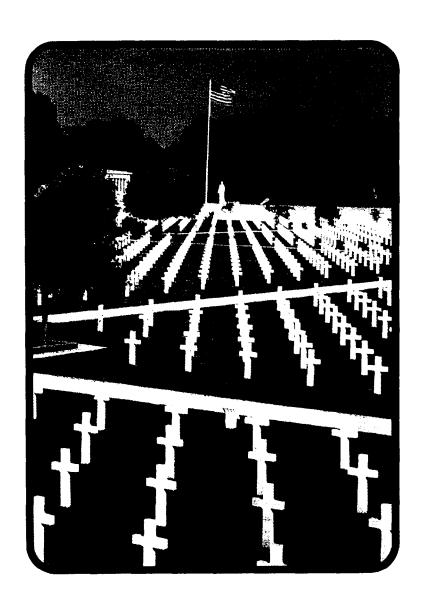
Sidi Bou Sid has a great shopping district. We took a short break to gather in souvenirs.







The CG recognized Roger for his tremendous efforts.





HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

AMVETS MEMORIAL CARILLON DEDICATION PROGRAM NORTH AFRICA AMERICAN CEMETERY CARTHAGE, TUNISIA TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1997

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Mr. Ernest Pitochelli, Sr., PNC Vice President, Board of Trustees AMVETS National Service Foundation

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

1st Infantry Division
US Air Forces Europe
US Sixthfleet
USMC Security Guard Detachment
US Military Personnel Assigned to
Embassy, Tunis

NATIONAL ANTHEMS

Tunisia and United States of America

INVOCATION

CDR Gregory G. Caiazzo CHC, USN Chaplain, Comfairmed

WELCOMING REMARKS

Mr. Warren Littrel Chargé d'Affaires US Embassy, Tunis

REMARKS

Mr. Joseph T. Piening, PNC
President, Board of Trustees
AMVETS National Service Foundation

PRESENTATION OF THE AMVETS

MEMORIAL CARILLON

Josephus C. Vandengoorbergh

National Commander, AMVETS

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CARILLON

Brigadier General James S. Dickey, USA (Ret)

Director

The American Battle Monuments

Commission, Europe

DEDICATION PRAYER

CDR Gregory G. Caiazzo

CHC, USN

Chaplain, Comfairmed

VETERANS DAY ADDRESS

Major General David Grange, USA

Commanding General

1st Infantry Division

DEDICATION ADDRESS

Major General Neal Creighton, USA (Ret)

President and CEO

Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation

CARILLON SELECTION AND OFFERING OF THE WREATH

TAPS

(MU1 Mander, Sixthfleet)

RAISING OF THE COLORS

BENEDICTION

Lieutenant Colonel James Harper

Commander 101st Military

Intelligence Battalion

RETIRING OF THE COLORS

A LIVING MEMORIAL

The AMVETS Memorial Carillon is an ongoing program that is truly unique ... a living memorial to our Nation's deceased veterans. The history of the program dates back to 1948 when AMVETS sought an appropriate memorial to honor those who had given their lives in World War II. After studying the tributes presented by other organizations and groups memorializing the dead of other wars, AMVETS decided that a "living" memorial, a carillon whose bells, symbolic of Thomas Jefferson's historic words, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," tolling as a constant reminder, would be the most appropriate. A carillon would not only affirm that the sacrifices made by those who died were not in vain, but would also serve to remind us of our legacy and of our debt to those who fought to preserve freedom throughout the world.

The first carillon was installed at Arlington National Cemetery. Accepted by an Act of Congress in October 1949, this carillon was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman on December 21, 1949, with his now immortal words, "...As these bells ring...honored dead rest...freedom lives..." This particular carillon was so well received that AMVETS established a continuing carillon program. In addition to Arlington National Cemetery, AMVETS carillons are located at 52 other locations, including the carillon that is being dedicated here today. A replacement carillon was dedicated at the Harry S. Truman Library on December 21, 1984, exactly thirty-five years after President Truman dedicated the first AMVETS Carillon. This dedication marked the very last event that honored President Truman during the 100th Anniversary of his birth.

Others are located at the memorial erected in tribute to the memory of the 1,177 crewmen of the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; the Hoover Library in West Branch, Iowa; the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library in Boston, Massachusetts; the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas; the American Military Cemetery in Manila, Philippines; the Netherlands American Military Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten, Holland; the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery in Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, France; Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania; and at AMVETS National Headquarters in Lanham, Maryland.

Additional AMVETS carillons are located in Department of Veterans Affairs cemeteries throughout the United States. The carillon located at AMVETS National Headquarters was designated as the AMVETS National Memorial Carillon on July 4, 1976, in commemoration of our Nation's 200th Anniversary. AMVETS invites its supporters and members to enroll the name of an immediate relative, who is now deceased and who served with honor in the United States Armed Forces, in the National Memorial Roster, in order that the bells of the National Memorial Carillon could toll in tribute to his or her memory on a specific date and time requested. The National Memorial Roster is on display in the Chapel at AMVETS National Headquarters, 4647 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, Maryland 20706.

The AMVETS Memorial Carillon program further provides for the future installation of carillons. For example, AMVETS goal is to install carillons at all of the Department of Veterans Affairs regional and national cemeteries throughout the land.





Josephus C. Vandengoorbergh The National Commander of Amvets in association with the Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation cordially invites you to attend a ceremony dedicating the Amvets Memorial Carillon as a Living Memorial to honor America's veterans who made the Supreme Sacrifice for the cause of Freedom Tuesday the eleventh of November, 1997 at three-thirty in the afternoon at the North Africa American Cemetery at Carthage, Tunisia

RSVP with reply card by: November 5, 1997



THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

Established by Congress, March 1923

North Africa American Cemetery

Carthage, Tunisia TEL: (2161) 747-767 FAX: (2161) 747-051

Department of State, Tunis Washington, DC 20521-6360 BP 346, Sidi Bou Said 2026, Tunisia

The Cemetery site covers 27 acres of the plateau lying between the Mediterranean and the Bay of Tunis, both of which are a mile or so distant. It is located near the site of the ancient Carthaginian city destroyed by the Romans in 146 BC and lies over part of the site of Roman Carthage. After World War II a survey made jointly by representatives of the Secretary of War and the American Battle Monuments Commission revealed that all of the sites of the temporary cemeteries established in North Africa during the war had major disadvantages. The present site was established in 1948. It lies in the sector of the British First Army which liberated the Tunis area in May 1943. Construction of the cemetery and memorial was completed in 1960. Here rest 2,841 of our Military Dead, representing 39 per cent of the burials which were originally made in North Africa and Iran. A high proportion of these gave their lives in the landings in, and occupation of Morocco and Algeria and in subsequent fighting which culminated in the liberation of Tunisia. Others died as a result of accident or sickness in these and other parts of North Africa, or while serving in the Persian Gulf Command in Iran.

Architects for the cemetery and memorial were Moore and Hutchins of New York City, New York. The landscape architect was Bryan J. Lynch also of New York.

The main entrance from the eucalyptus-bordered highway is at the Southeast corner of the cemetery. To the right of the entrance is one of the superintendent's houses; beyond is the oval forecourt. Beneath the green plot in the center of the forecourt is the reservoir which stores the water for the cemetery needs, as well as the pumps which operate the high pressure sprinkling system. Down the hill and beyond the forecourt is the utilities area. In the forecourt are rows of eucalyptus and ornamental India laurel fig (ficus nitida) trees; the beds include Pittosporum tobira, scarlet hibiscus, lantana camara, English Ivy, Cassia floribunda, orangeberry pittosporum and other shrubs and vines. Extending to the left(west) of the forecourt and parking area is the mall. At the head of the steps leading to the mall, and at the right (North) is the Visitors' building, built of Roman travertine marble imported from Italy; west of it is the flagpole. On the south side of the mall are the Tablets of the Missing; at its far (west) end is the memorial chapel. North of the mall is the graves area which it overlooks. South of the highway is an additional area used for service purposes.

On the west facade of the Visitor's Building is this inscription taken from General Eisenhower's dedication of the Golden Book now enshrined in St. Paul's Cathedral in London: HERE WE AND ALL WHO SHALL HEREAFTER LIVE IN FREEDOM WILL BE REMINDED THAT TO THESE MEN AND THEIR COMRADES WE OWE A DEBT TO BE PAID WITH GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF THEIR SACRIFICE AND WITH THE HIGH RESOLVE THAT THE CAUSE FOR WHICH THEY DIED SHALL LIVE. Within the Visitor's Building is a Roman mosaic discovered in the region and donated in 1959 by President Bourguiba of Tunisia to Ambassador G. Lewis Jones, who in turn presented it to the cemetery.

The Tablets of the Missing consist of a wall 364 feet long, of local Nahli limestone, with local Gathouna limestone copings. Built into it are panels of Trani limestone imported from Italy on which are inscribed the names and particulars of 3,724 of the Missing: United States Army and Army Air Forces 3095, United States Navy 615, United States Coast Guard 14. These men and women gave their lives in the service of their Country; but their remains either were not identified or they were lost or buried at sea in the waters surrounding the African continent. They include men from all of the States except Hawaii and from the District of Columbia. At each end of the tablets is this inscription: HERE ARE RECORDED THE NAMES OF AMERICANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY AND WHO SLEEP IN UNKNOWN GRAVES 1941-45 * INTO THY HANDS O LORD. Near the foot of the steps leading down from the forecourt is a pool and figure of HONOR about to bestow a laurel branch upon those who gave their lives. The figure's pedestal bears this inscription: HONOR TO THEM THAT TROD THE PATH OF HONOR. Along the wall are two other sculptured figures: MEMORY and RECOLLECTION, the latter holding a book with the inscription PRO PATRIA. Between these figures are oak leaf wreaths within which are engraved the names of battles on land, sea and in the air, in which the American forces participated: ORAN, CASABLANCA, ALGIERS, KASSERINE, EL GUETTAR, SIDI NSIR, BIZERTE, SICILY, PLOESTI. All of this sculpture is of Bianco Caldo stone from near Foggia, Italy; it was designed by Henry Kreis of Essex, Connecticut, and executed by Piero Bibolotti. Pietrasanta. Italy. Planted in front of the

Tablets of the Missing are rows of India laurel fig trees in beds of English ivy. One the north side of the terrace are potted pink geraniums adjacent to a row of holly oaks in beds of ivy.

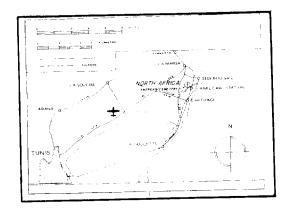
The memorial consists of the Court of Honor and the chapel. The Court of Honor is in the form of a cloister. Within it is a large rectangular stone of remembrance of black Diorite d'Anzola quarried in northwest Italy; this inscription, adapted from Ecclesiasticus XLIV, is worked into the design of the mosaic panel surrounding the base: SOME THERE BE WHICH HAVE NO SEPULCHRE. THEIR NAME LIVETH, FOR EVERMORE. The rectangular pylons of the cloister are of San Gottardo limestone from the vicinity of Vicenza in Italy; the main part of the structure of the memorial is faced with Roman travertine. The pavement is of Sienite della Balma granite from northwest Italy. In the southwest corner is a Russian olive tree. On the west wall of the cloister facing the mall is this encryption, with translations in French and Arabic: 1941-1945 - IN PROUD REMEMBRANCE OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HER SONS AND IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THEIR SACRIFICES THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. At the south end of the cloister are the maps. These are of ceramic designed and fabricated by Pauld D. Holleman of Roxbury, Massachusetts, from information supplied by the American Battle Monuments Commission. The large map on the end (south) wall records the military operations of the American Forces and those of the Allies in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia from the initial "Torch" landings on 8 November 1942 to the Axis surrender on 13 May 1943. The descriptive text is in English, Arabic and French. On this wall also attempt the two series of key/maps (2-): "The War Against Germany" and "The War Against Japan". As indicated by the texts the map on the east wall records in greater detail the operations in central and southern Tunisia, while the one on the opposite (west) wall covers the final stages in northern Tunisia. The map on the west pylon portrays most of Africa, the Mediterranean and the Middle East. It records the air ferry routes across Africa as well as the operations of the Persian Gulf Command. The descriptive test for this map, also in English, French and Arabic, is on the face of the corresponding east pylon.

The bronze doors and the windows of the chapel were fabricated by the Morris Singer Company of London, England. At the far end of the chapel which is lighted by the tall window on the right and a row of lower windows on the left is the altar of white Carrara Marble, with this inscription from St. John 10:28: I GIVE UNTO THEM ETERNAL LIFE AND THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH. The wall behind the altar is of polished Rosso Porfirico marble from near Udine in northeastern Italy. Facing the door, on the wing wall projecting from the right is the sculpture sacrifice carved in Italian Bianco Caldo stone, designed by Henry Kreis and executed by Pietro Bibolotti. Below and to its left is the inscription from Shelley's ode "Adonais": "HE HAS OUTSOARED THE SHADOW OF OUR NIGHT." To the left of the altar are the United States national flag and Christian and Jewish chapel flags. Projecting from the east wall above the pews are the flags of combat arms, viz; Infantry, Field Artillery, Air Corps, Armor and Navy Infantry Battalion. Beneath the flags is this prayer: ALMIGHTY GOD, RECEIVE THESE THY HEROIC SERVANTS INTO THY KINGDOM. The ceiling is of Moroccan cedar; the pews and prie-dicu are of walnut. Three flower boxes of teakwood, with bronze appurtenances, are located under the west windows of the chapel. North of the chapel, down a flight of steps from the cloister, is the memorial garden with its pool; the plants include latana, poinciana, pink geraniums and a Jerusalem thorn tree. Beyond is the graves area.

The 2,833 headstones in the rectangular graves area are divided into nine plots designated A to I. They are arranged in rectangular lines harmonizing with the rectangular composition of the cemetery and memorial. The 2,841 burials in the cemetery include 240 Unknows. These Dead who gave their lives in their Country's service came from all of the States except Hawaii and from the District of Columbia; a few came from foreign countries. Among the headstones is one which marks the tomb of seven Americans whose identity is unknown (Plot E- Row 5- Grave 16); also two adjacent headstones mark the graves of four men whose names are known, but whose remains could not be separately identified (1-10-4/5); a bronze tablet between these graves records their names. Also in this cemetery, in four instances, two brothers are buried side by side (1-12-9&10, both were killed 24 Dec 1942); (H-7-14&15); (G-19-13&14) and (F-19-1&2). Medal of Honor Recipient PVT Nicholas Minue is interred in E-8-4 and Woman's Army Corps PVT Celia Goldberg in C-11-13. In the burial area are four fountains and pools of Roman travertine which with their surrounding vegetation of rosemary, oleander and pink geraniums form small and welcome oases in this frequently hot climate. The paths are lined either by India laurel fig trees or California pepper trees. The border massifs contain a wide variety of trees and shrubs in which oleanders and hibiscus are predominant. The grass in the cemetery is kikuyu. It can sustain the head of this region with minimum water. The entire graves and memorial areas are surrounded beyond the inner walls by massifs of trees and shrubbery in which these predominate: p.yramidal cypress, aleppo pine, eucalyptus, cassowary, Moreton Bay fig, golden wattle acacia as well as weavers broom and numerous oleanders.



Cemetery Entrance



North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial

LOCATION

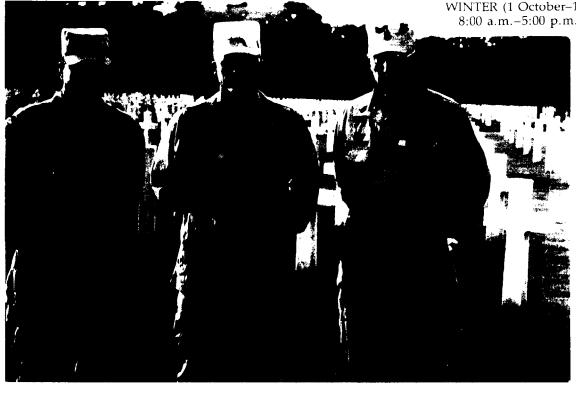
North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial is situated 10 miles northeast of the city of Tunis, Tunisia, and 5 miles northeast of its airport (El Aouina). It may be reached by taxicab from the city or the airport. There is an electric commuter train from Tunis — the nearest stop is at Amilcar station, from which the cemetery is only two or three hundred yards distant. Hotels are available in Tunis, Carthage, Amilcar and Gammarth. The weather is likely to be quite hot during the summer months and cold on occasion during the winter.

HOURS

The cemetery is open daily to the public as shown below:

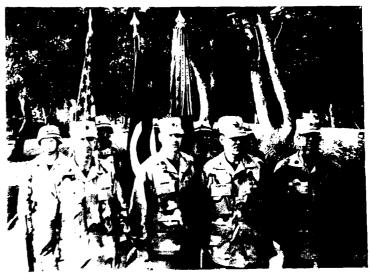
SUMMER (16 April-30 September) 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. — daily

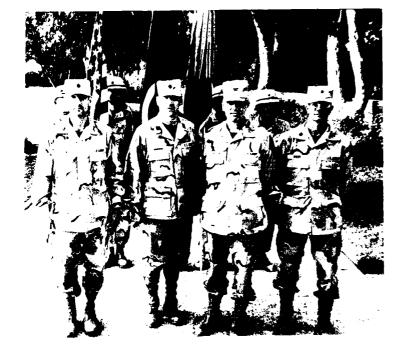
WINTER (1 October–15 April) 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. — daily





The dedication of the carillon was moving. Many of us spent quiet time at the cemetery paying tribute to our fallen comrades.





Our mission complete, it was time to return to Germany to nurture the beginning of a new chapter in the Big Red One's history.



CONCLUSION

Taking Count

THE MISSION OF THE II CORPS had been threefold: to protect the left flank of the British V Corps; to keep the enemy from concentrating in front of the First Army; and to capture certain major objectives. The II Corps had completed its mission. It had maintained contact all during the operation with the left flank of the British V Corps, which was never menaced. At the beginning of the campaign only about 12,000 front-line enemy troops opposed our advance; at the close of the operation approximately 40,000 enemy troops were in front of the II Corps. All the objectives of the II Corps had been captured, both those assigned initially in the Jefna and Chouigui areas and the ultimate goal, Bizerte. American advances had been coordinated with French and British successes.

The accomplishment of the mission assigned to the II Corps is a record of fighting men with the will and ability to win. It is also the record of an army well supplied, well equipped, and expertly led.

For operations of such scope and intensity, our losses during the campaign for Bizerte were small. Outflanking maneuvers around strong positions such as Bald Hill and Green Hill in the Jefna sector, concentration on key terrain features such as Hill 609, intense artillery bombardment preceding major attacks, and use of armor to exploit infantry successes were important factors in holding casualties to a minimum. The following tabulation shows losses of the II Corps.

	Killed	Wounded	Missing
1st Division. 9th Division. 34th Division. 1st Armored. Corps Franc. Other Units.	103 82 85 68 70 13	1, 245 548 470 424 400 49	682 20 79 96
Total	421	3, 136	877

TUNISIA 1942-1943

Further Readings

Readings on the Tunisia Campaign are to be found in both broader studies of Operation TORCH and the European Theater of Operations as well as in autobiographical accounts by key participants and analyses of the battle for Kasserine Pass. General Eisenhower recounts the challenges of international command in his Crusade in Europe (1948). Harry C. Butcher, a naval officer on Eisenhower's staff give another view from headquarters in his My Three Years with Eisenhower (1946). The views of armor commanders are to be found in George S. Patton, Jr., War 4s I Knew It (1947), and Ernest N. Harmon, Combat Commander. Autobiography of a Soldier (1970); Brief but professional treatment of an American setback in North Africa is Martin Blumenson, "Kasserine Pass, 30 January 22 February 1943," chapter 8 of Charles E. Heller and William A. Stofft eds., America's First Battles, 1776-1965 (1986). The most exhaustive treatment of the battle for Tunisia remains George F. Howe, Northweye Africa: Seizing the Initiative in the West (1957), a volume in the series United States Army in World War II.



TUNGA 1942-1943

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